



# THE CREMATORIUM

(LIMITED)

(Incorporated by Dominion Letters Patent.)

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## DIRECTORS.

HON. SIR GEO. A. DRUMMOND, K.C.M.G.,      E. S. CLOUSTON,  
President      Vice-President.

JAS. CRATHERN,      RICHARD WHITE,  
JAMES TASKER.

## OFFICERS.

C. A. PETERS, M.D., M.R.C.S.,      F. W. HARVEY, B.A., M.D.,  
Medical Referee.      Deputy Medical Referee.

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Office Canada Life Building,  
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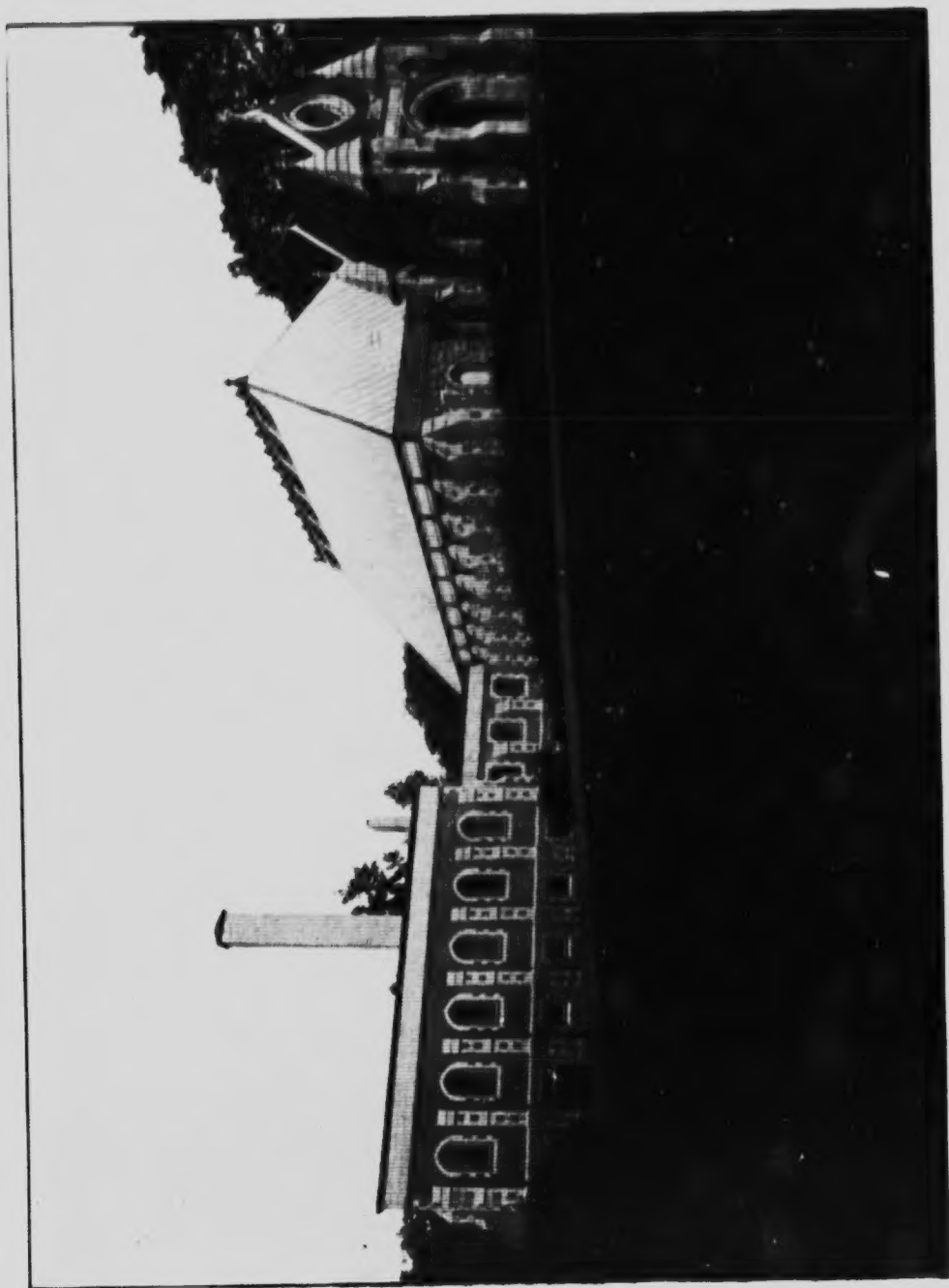
W. ORMISTON ROY, Manager,  
Office Mount Royal Cemetery,

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## MONTREAL:

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1904.



THE CREMATORIUM

# THE CREMATORIUM

(LIMITED)

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THE Crematorium, Limited, was incorporated by Letters Patent in October, 1903, a copy of which Letters Patent are printed herewith. In May, 1904, they purchased and took over the Crematorium from the Mount Royal Cemetery Company, which had been erected and had been in operation since 18th April, 1902. The number of cremations from the opening of the Crematorium to the taking over of the property by the present Company—a period of a little over two years—was eleven. Since that date, that is since the 1st May, 1904, until the 30th June, there have been seven bodies cremated, indicating a very substantial growth of public opinion in favor of this mode of disposing of the bodies of the dead.

It is the aim of this company to provide for the more general use of cremation. There are certain reasons which stand in the way of the accomplishment of this desire, reasons not to be lightly cast aside and which must be respected if real progress is to be made. It is with this end in view that it has prepared the by-laws and regulations which govern the acceptance and disposal of bodies offered for cremation. The desire is to respect the wishes of those nearest and dearest to the deceased, and in order to meet what is undoubtedly the gravest objection to the practice of cremation, the opportunity its use offers for the concealment of crime, the company has adopted the provisions of the English law which have, in actual practice, been found to meet all requirements of the situation. Extracts from these by-laws and regulations are printed herewith, and perusal will show their adequacy to meet the condition above referred to.

While the practice of cremation is making rapid strides in the public estimation, it may not be out of place to draw attention to the advantages it possesses over the even less ancient but more generally accepted means of disposal of the bodies of the dead, by burial.

The principal advantage cremation possesses over burial is that its general practice will remove from our midst the cemeteries which are a constant source of danger to the living. Sir Henry Thompson, Professor of Clinical Surgery in the University College of London, says : No dead body is ever placed in the soil without polluting the earth and the water above and about it."

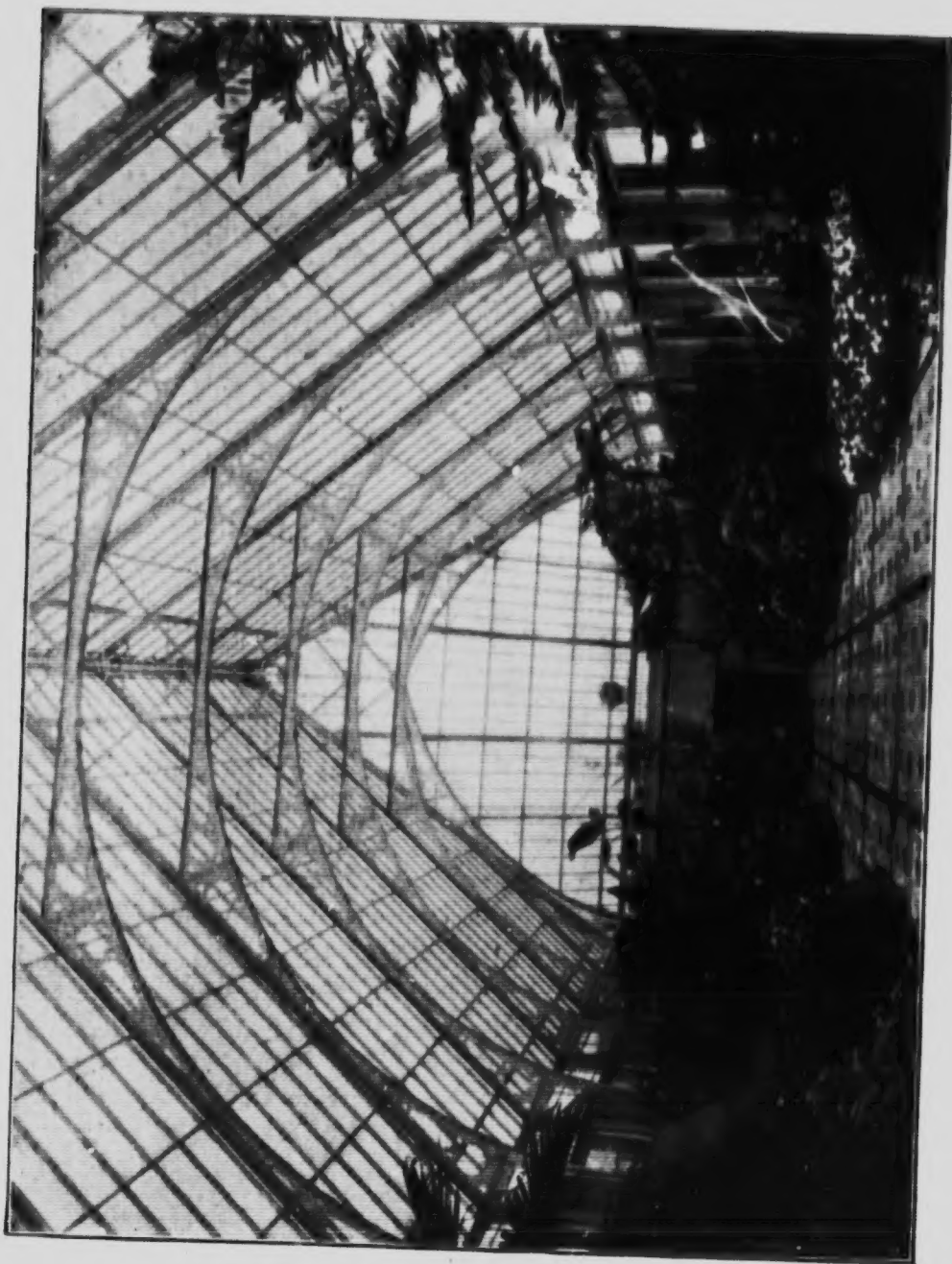
The Philadelphia *Bulletin* says : "The dead lie in their graves powerless for good, but they are strong for evil, they pollute the air we breathe and poison the water we drink. Smallpox, typhoid, diphtheria, yellow and scarlet fevers are often caused by the buried."

At a meeting in St. Louis, in 1866, to consider cremation, Dr. J. M. Keller said: "We believe the horrid practice of earth burial does more to propagate the germs of disease and death and to spread desolation and pestilence, than all man's ingenuity and ignorance in every other custom and habit."

Our laws carefully prescribe the location of cemeteries. Nevertheless, once established, cemeteries frequently, through the growth of population, become as dangerous as if their location had been left unrestricted.

These facts are not denied by the thinking public, but they are listened to with unconcern and apathy and dismissed with a carelessness that amounts to criminal negligence by very many who overlook the conditions of health here.

It will, therefore, be seen that the cemetery is an ever present menace to the health of the living. On the other hand cremation offers a solution to the problem of disposing of the bodies of the dead without endangering the health of the living, inasmuch as it substitutes for the decay and decomposition which may extend over a period of from fifteen to sixty years a form of disposal from which the bodies of the dead emerge purified beyond any possibility of harm doing. Even those who are manacled by affection to the customs of the past must readily admit the wisdom of cremation in the cases of those where death resulted from infectious disease. There are even those who do not favor cremation as the ordinary means of disposing of the bodies of the dead who are of opinion that it



THE CONSERVATORY.

should be made compulsory in connection with all deaths from infectious diseases. Once this position is assumed the complete recognition of the practice of cremation must follow, for if our aversion can be conquered in this way it surely has no right of existence, seeing that the mere misfortune of our loved ones to have perished through the effects of a dreaded disease may not be held in itself to have made the loss any the less keen, or the respect due their remains any the less marked.

If we can, for the sake of the living, thus forego our aversion to departing from the custom of burial, it must be only a step when we will be prepared to do so for the sake of the dead. Anyone who investigates cremation with an open mind must become a convert to the cleanly and wholesome method it offers of disposing of the bodies of the dead. Not only is it less expensive, since the costly metallic casket embellished with heavy ornaments must be replaced by a plain wooden coffin without metal trimmings, but cremation removes every danger of premature interment, of the desecration of graves, etc. The ashes may be interred or not, as is desired. If they are interred cremation simply means that an artificial means has been availed of for the purpose of attaining in a few moments exactly the same end as nature brings about by the decay of years.

Of the actual process of cremation itself the following from the pen of a clergyman after witnessing it for the first time will be found characteristic of general experience :

"As we turned away from the incinerator where we had left the body of our friend, it was grateful to feel that whatever might remain after a few brief hours of purifying work, would be as he would wish it, clean and white, like his own pure self, without offence to thought or memory. The earthly parts which might be driven off by the heat, and in that sense made spiritual, would have their home with sunlight in the upper air, and altogether, every thought and feeling which the scene evoked, were far from being painful, as I feared they would be. After all that I have seen I must say that my feelings are completely changed, and that the process of incineration is



so much more attractive than anything which I had ever conceived, that I would as much rather see the body of my dearest friend cremated than buried, as can possibly be imagined."

We carefully refrain from dwelling upon the processes that take place within the grave. Can they for one moment be compared with this? Could one write as freely and as openly about them without inciting feelings of disgust in his readers. There is nothing else that pronounces more strongly in favor of cremation than this very fact.

The crematorium of the Crematorium Limited, is situated in Mount Royal Cemetery. The building is of the English-Gothic style of architecture, with massive oak doors, is built of Montreal limestone and of fireproof construction throughout. An imposing entrance porch leads one at once to a large conservatory, its sides lined with plate glass windows, its glass roof supported by ornamental iron trusses and with a richly designed floor in different colored marbles. The sides banked with plants, some of equatorial growth, the conservatory forms a magnificent entrance hall. Opening off the conservatory and leading to the crematorium hall is a small ante-room. The crematorium hall is a beautiful room with an arched roof groined with ribs and bosses. The floor, like that of the conservatory, is laid in rich colored marbles in a decorative pattern, and the walls are lined with pavonezzo marble for a considerable height. The windows are filled with leaded glass in ornamental and varied patterns. It is in this hall that the religious ceremony, when one is desired, will take place.

Elaborate bronze doors give access to the adjoining incinerating room, the floor of which is paved with white tiles and the walls to the height of six feet six inches lined with white marble. Space has been provided for four incinerators, two only having been placed in position for the present. They are made of special fire brick with steel casings, and were constructed by Mr. James Inglis, superintendent of the Gardner Earl Memorial at Troy, New York, probably the most beautiful crematorium in the United States. The fuel used is kerosene oil, and the incineration of a body requires an average time of about two hours.



The fee for cremation is fixed at \$10.00, but the Manager may in cases of those entitled to free burials, with the approval of the President or a member of the Board, cremate free of charge.

The following are the letters patent constituting the company:



# CANADA

BY THE HONOURABLE RICHARD WILLIAM SCOTT  
SECRETARY OF STATE OF CANADA.

TO all to whom these presents shall come, or whom the same may in any wise concern,

## GREETING:

WHEREAS, in and by Chapter 15 of H. Edward VII., and known as "The Companies' Act, 1902," it is amongst other things, in effect enacted, that the Secretary of State may, by Letters Patent, under his Seal of office, grant a Charter to any number of persons, not less than five, who have complied with the requirements of the Act apply therefor, constituting such persons, and others who thereafter become shareholders in the Company thereby created, a Body Corporate and Politic for any of the purposes or objects to which the Legislative Authority of the Parliament of Canada extends, except the construction and working of Railways or of Telegraph or Telephone lines, or the business of Banking and the issue of paper money, or the business of Insurance, or the business of a Loan Company, upon the Applicants therefor establishing to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State due compliance with the several conditions and terms in and by the said Act set forth and thereby made conditions precedent to the granting of such Charter.

AND WHEREAS, THE HONOURABLE GEORGE ALEXANDER DRUMMOND, Senator; RICHARD BLADWORTH ANGUS, Gentleman; JAMES CRATHERN, Gentleman; EDWARD SEABOURNE CLOUSTON, Bank Manager, and the HONOURABLE ROBERT MACKAY, Senator, all of the City and District of Montreal,

in the Province of Quebec, have made application for a charter under the said Act, constituting them and such others as may become shareholders in the Company thereby created, a Body Corporate and Politic, under the name of

**"THE CREMATORIUM, LIMITED,"**

for the purposes hereinafter mentioned, and have satisfactorily established the sufficiency of all proceedings required by the said Act to be taken, and the trust and sufficiency of all facts required to be established previous to granting of such Letters Patent, and have filed in the Department of the Secretary of State a duplicate of the Memorandum of Agreement executed by the said applicants in conformity with the provisions of the said Act.

NOW KNOW YE, that I, the said Richard William Scott, Secretary of State of Canada, under the authority of the hereinbefore in part recited Act, do, by these Letters Patent, constitute the said, THE HONOURABLE GEORGE ALEXANDER DRUMMOND, RICHARD BLADWORTH ANGUS, JAMES CRATHERN, EDWARD SEABOURNE CLOUSTON, and the HONOURABLE ROBERT MACKAY, and all others who may become shareholders in the said Company, a Body Corporate and Politic, by the name of

**"THE CREMATORIUM, LIMITED,"**

with all the rights and powers given by the said Act and for the following purposes and objects, namely, (a) To dispose of the bodies of deceased persons by incineration or cremation and to erect or acquire for the purpose a suitable building or buildings and to provide the same with such fixtures, appliances and facilities as may be deemed necessary in order that such incineration or cremation may be carried on in accordance with accepted scientific principles. (b) To make by-laws and regulations for the reception, burial or cremation of the bodies of deceased persons, for the burial of the ashes remaining therefrom, or otherwise disposing of the same in accordance with the wishes of the deceased or the person from whom the body is received and for the fees and rates to be charged. (c) To acquire and undertake the whole or any part of the business, property and liabilities of any person or company



ENTRANCE FROM CONSERVATORY AND CREMATORIUM.

carrying on any business which this company is authorized to carry on or possessed of property suitable for the purposes of this company. (d) To take or otherwise acquire and hold shares in any other company having objects altogether or in part similar to those of this company or carrying on any business capable of being conducted so as to directly or indirectly benefit this company. (e) To sell or dispose of the undertaking of the company or any part thereof for such consideration as the company may think fit, and in particular for shares, debentures or securities of any other company having objects altogether or in part similar to those of this company. (f) To invest the capital or any undivided surplus of the company in real estate, debentures, stock or any incorporated company, or in any other way the company or its directors may deem best. (g) To receive gifts of money or property movable or immovable, on such terms and conditions as the company or its directors may agree to. (h) To carry on the said operations throughout the Dominion of Canada and elsewhere.

The place within the Dominion of Canada which is to be the chief place of business of the said Company is the City of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec.

The capital stock of the said Company shall be Ten Thousand Dollars, divided into Ten shares of One Thousand Dollars each, subject to the increase of such Capital Stock under the provisions of the said Act.

That the said, the Honourable George Alexander Drummond, James Crathern and the Honourable Robert Mackay are to be the first or Provisional Directors of the said Company.

PROVIDED ALWAYS that nothing in these Presents expressed or contained, shall be taken to authorize the construction or working of Railways, or of Telegraph or Telephone lines, or the business of Banking, and the issue of paper money, or the business of Insurance or the business of a Loan Company by the said Company.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at Ottawa this twenty-second day of October, 1903.

(SIGNED)

R. W. SCOTT.

*Secretary of State.*

L.S.

## EXTRACT FROM BY-LAWS.

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The manager shall be under the control and direction in all respects of the directors.

(a) He shall have the general care and custody of the Crematorium ; the control and direction of the subordinate officers and men employed therein, and the enforcement of all by-laws, rules and regulations enacted by the directors.

(b) He shall pay all moneys and fees received for and on account of the Company to the secretary-treasurer, within twenty-four hours of their receipt.

(c) He shall keep special books of record, make such reports, and perform such other duties appropriate to his office as the directors may from time to time require.

(d) He shall make ample provision for the prompt and sufficient attendance on all funeral processions arriving at the Crematorium.

(e) He shall not permit, on any pretext whatever, any cremation without the consent in writing of the Medical Referee of the Company or his deputy, and he may refuse to allow cremation in any case without assigning reasons.

15. The Board shall from time to time appoint a Medical Referee, who must be a registered medical practitioner of not less than five years standing, and must possess such experience and qualifications as will fit him for the discharge of the duties required by him by these by-laws. They shall also appoint a deputy Medical Referee, possessing the like qualifications, to act in the absence of the Medical Referee, and in any case in which the Medical Referee has been the medical attendant of the deceased.

The duties of the Medical Referee shall be as follows:—

(1) He shall not give the certificate necessary to allow any cremation to take place if it appears that the deceased left a written direction to the contrary.

(2). He shall not (except where an inquest has been held and a certificate given by the Coroner, which shall be in the form E) authorise any cremation to take place unless he is satisfied that the death of the deceased has been duly established by the production of the forms required in case of burial.

(3). He shall, before authorising the cremation, examine the application of certificates and ascertain that they are such as are required by these regulations, and that the enquiry made by the persons giving the certificates have been adequate. He may make any enquiry with regard to the application and certificates that he may think necessary.

(4). He shall not authorise the cremation unless he is satisfied that the application is made by an executor or by the nearest surviving relative of the deceased, or, if made by any other person, that the fact that the executor or nearest relative has not made the application is sufficiently explained, and that the person making the application is a proper person to do so.

(5). He shall not authorise the cremation unless he is satisfied that the fact and cause of death have been definitely ascertained ; and in particular, if the cause of death assigned in the medical certificates be such as, regard being had to all the circumstances, might be due to poison, to violence, to any illegal operation, or to privation or neglect he shall require a post-mortem examination to be held, and if that fails to reveal the cause of death shall decline to allow the cremation unless an inquest be held and a certificate be given by the Coroner in Form E.

(6). If it appears that death was due to poison, to violence, to any illegal operation or to privation or neglect, or if there are any suspicious circumstances whatsoever, whether revealed in the certificates or otherwise coming to his knowledge, he shall decline to allow the cremation unless an inquest has been held and a certificate given by the Coroner in form E.

(7). If the Coroner has given notice that he intends to hold an inquest on the body, he shall not authorise the cremation to take place until the inquest has been held.

(8). He may in any case decline to allow the cremation without stating any reason.

(9). In cases of persons dying of plague cholera, yellow fever, or other disease of a like nature, the Medical Referee may permit cremation under an order from the Board of Health.

No body shall be cremated until the fees chargeable therefor have been paid, nor shall a body be cremated within twenty-four hours after decease, unless under an order from a duly constituted Board of Health, or unless death has been occasioned by an infectious or contagious disease, and a certificate or permit to that effect, as required by law, is presented to the Manager ; and further, no body shall be cremated at any time unless a medical certificate similar to that at the time required for burial has been produced ; and further, the Company shall not by cremation or incineration dispose of bodies of persons who have died a sudden or violent death without the permission of the Coroner of the district in which such person died.

18. The Manager shall have the right to refuse to cremate in any case without assigning cause.

19. Cremation as well as the disposal and delivery of the ashes shall take place under the direction of the Manager. The coffins in which the bodies are burned shall be constructed entirely of wood, joined without the use of metal nails or clasps or metal ornaments of any kind ; they shall not exceed the following dimensions :

Length not over 7 feet.

Width " " 2 "

Height " " 2 "

20. Relatives desiring a religious ceremony in the Crematorium must themselves provide for the conduct of it, and shall notify the Manager at a reasonable time in advance.

21. Upon the arrival of the funeral procession at the Crematorium, the coffin shall be placed upon a table before the receiving chamber, and by means of a mechanical contrivance or otherwise shall be passed thence into the receiving chamber, whereupon the incineration shall immediately begin.

22. During the incineration the mourners shall be allowed to remain within the Crematorium.

23. Watching of the cremation through the opening provided for the purpose, or through the opening in the door of the furnace, can only be allowed by agreement between the nearest relatives of the deceased and the Manager.



24. The ashes remaining from the cremation of the bodies of deceased persons shall be taken from the furnace upon the morning following the cremation, and shall there be delivered to the relatives of the deceased or to such person as is duly authorised to receive them ; but if not removed within thirty days from the date of cremation the Manager shall bury the ashes in such property of the Company as may be designated for such purpose.

25. The fees and rates to be paid for cremation shall be fixed by the directors by resolution, and may be changed at any meeting of the directors, and shall go into force one month after such amended tariff is posted up in the Crematorium.

26. The Directors may from time to time, as circumstances may require, repeal, amend or re-enact the above by-laws, but such by-laws repealed, amended or re-enacted shall only have force until the next meeting of Shareholders, and in default of confirmation thereat shall from that time cease to have force.

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## FORMS.

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### A.

#### APPLICATION FOR CREMATION, WITH STATUTORY DECLARATION.

I \_\_\_\_\_ (name of applicant)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (address)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (occupation)  
 apply to THE CREMATORIUM, LIMITED, to undertake the cremation of the  
 remains of \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (name of deceased)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (address)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (occupation)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (age) \_\_\_\_\_ (sex)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (whether married, widow, widower, or unmarried)

The true answers to the questions set out below are as follows : -

1. Are you an executor or the nearest surviving relative of the deceased ?

2. If not, state

(a) Your relationship to the deceased? (a)

(b) The reason why the application is made by you and not by an executor or any nearer relative. (b)

3. Did the deceased leave any written directions as to the mode of disposal of his remains ? If so, what ?

4. Have the near relatives of the deceased been informed of the proposed cremation ?

(The term "near relative," as here used includes widow or widower, parents, children above the age of 16, and any other relative usually residing with the deceased.)

5. Has any near relative of the deceased expressed any objection to the proposed cremation ? If so, on what ground ?

6. What was the date and hour of the death of the deceased ?

7. What was the place where deceased died ? (Give address, and say whether own residence, lodgings, hotel, hospital, nursing home, &c.)

8. Do you know, or have you any reason to suspect, that the death of the deceased was due, directly or indirectly to

(a) violence ;

(b) poison ;

(c) privation or neglect ?

9. Do you know any reason whatever for supposing that an examination of the remains of the deceased may be desirable ?

10. Give the name and address of the ordinary medical attendant of the deceased.

11. Give names and addresses of the medical practitioners who attended deceased during his last illness

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath, and by virtue of the Canada Evidence Act, 1893.

(Signature)

Declared at  
the  
before me

day of

(Signature)

B.

### CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL ATTENDANT.

I am informed that the application is about to be made for the cremation of the remains of

(name of deceased)

(address)

(occupation)

Having attended the deceased before death, and seen and identified the body after death, I give the following answers to the questions set out below :

1. On what date, and at what hour did he or she die ?

2. What was the place where the deceased died ? (Give address and say whether own residence, lodgings, hotel, hospital, nursing home, &c.)

3. Are you a relative of the deceased ?  
If so, state the relationship ?

4. Have you, so far as you are aware, any pecuniary interest in the death of deceased ?

5. Were you the ordinary medical attendant of the deceased ? if so, for how long ?

6. Did you attend the deceased during his or her last illness? If so, for how long?

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7. When did you last see the deceased alive? (Say how many days or hours before death.)

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8. How soon after death did you see the body, and what examination of it did you make?

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9. What was the cause of death?

Primary

Secondary

(Specify the disease, injury, &c., and if possible distinguish the primary from the secondary cause as in the Death Certificate)

What was its duration in years, months or days?

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10. What was the mode of death? (Say whether syncope, coma, exhaustion, convulsions, &c.)

What was its duration in days, hours or minutes?

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11. State how far the answers to the last two questions are the result of your own observations, or are based on statements made by others. If on statements made by others, say by whom.

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12. Did the deceased undergo any operation during the final illness or within a year before death? If so, what was its nature, and who performed it?

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13. By whom was the deceased nursed during his or her last illness? (Give names, and say whether professional nurse, relative, &c. If the illness was a long one, this question should be answered with reference to the period of four weeks before the death.)

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14. Who were the persons (if any) present at the moment of the death?

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IV

15. In view of the knowledge of the deceased's habits and constitution, do you feel any doubt whatever as to the character of the disease or the cause of death ?

16. Do you know, or have you any reason to suspect, that the death of the deceased was due directly or indirectly, to

- (a) violence ;
- (b) poison ;
- (c) privation or neglect ?

17. Have you any reason whatever to suppose a further examination of the body to be desirable ?

18. Have you given the certificate required for registration of death ?

I hereby certify that the answers given above are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that there is no circumstance known to me which can give rise to any suspicion that the death was due wholly or in part to any other cause than disease

accident  
or which makes it desirable that the body should not be cremated.

(Signature)

(Address)

(Registered qualifications)

(Date)

C

### CONFIRMATORY MEDICAL CERTIFICATE.

I have examined the foregoing medical certificate, and have made personal enquiry as stated in my answers to the questions below :

1. Have you seen the body of the deceased ?

2. Have you carefully examined the body externally ?

3. Have you made a post-mortem examination ?

4. Have you seen and questioned the medical practitioner who gave the above certificate ?

5. Have you seen and questioned any other medical practitioner who attended the deceased?

6. Have you seen and questioned any person who nursed the deceased during his last illness, or who was present at the death?

7. Have you seen and questioned any of the relatives of the deceased ?

8. Have you seen and questioned any other person?

(In answer to questions 5, 6, 7 and 8, give names and addresses of persons seen and say whether you saw them alone).

I am satisfied that the cause of death was

and I certify that I know of no circumstances which can give rise to any suspicion that death was due wholly or in part to any other cause than disease or which makes it desirable that the body should not be cremated.

(Signature)

(Address)

(Date)

(Registered qualifications)

(Office)

12.

**CERTIFICATE AFTER POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION.**

I hereby certify that, acting as Medical Referee to the  
I made a post-mortem examination of the remains of

(Name)

(Address)

(Occupation)

The result of the examination is as follows :—

I am satisfied that cause of death was

and that there is no reason *for making any toxicological analysis or (\*)* for the holding of an inquest.

(Signature)

(Address)

(Date)

(Registered qualification)

(\*). The words underlined should be omitted where a toxicological analysis has been made and its result is stated in this certificate or in a certificate attached to it.

E.

#### CORONER'S CERTIFICATE.

I certify that I held an inquest on the *body of*  
and that the verdict of the Jury was as follows :—

Medical evidence was given by

I am satisfied from the evidence that the cause of death was

and that no circumstances exist  
which could render necessary any further examination of the remains or  
any analysis of any part of the body.

(Date)

(C6 11)







THE CREMATORIUM HALL.